etc. and to provide a forum to them for interaction in these areas and generate business.

As reported by ITPO, business amounting to Rs. 550 crores has been booked in these fairs. Most of the participants are reported to have expressed their satisfaction towards achievements of their objectives of participation, quality and cost-effectiveness of fairs and trade results and confirmed their willingness for repeat participation.

मांस के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध लगाया जाना

2016. **श्री राघव जी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को भारत से मांस के निर्यात करने पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कोई सुझाव या ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): (क) और (ख) मांस के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के संबंध में विभिन्न संगठनों/व्यक्तियों से प्रतिवेदन मिले हैं। गाय के मांस को छोड़कर जिसका निर्यात पहले से ही प्रतिबंधित है, मांस के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध लगाने संबंधी कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है।

Enhancement in Payment Rate by Coffee Board to Coffee Growers

2017. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coffee Board recently announced an enhancement in the initial payment rate for the 1994-95 crop season from Rs. 36 per point to Rs. 45 per point to the growers for the coffee being pooled with the Board;

(b) whether the payment of Rs. 45 per point was the highest ever offered to the growers;

(c) if so, the reaction of the coffee growers to this hike;

(d) how far it helped to control the domestic prices particularly at the retail level;

(e) whether Government has by now decided on the growers demand for getting a 100 per cent free-sale quota (FSQ) for the current crop; and

(f) if so, what and how far will it go towards the lowering of domestic prices and obviate the import of coffee under the OGL (Open General Licence) list of imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Coffee growers have generally welcomed this because of existing high market prices of coffee.

(d) This has encouraged growers to pool their coffee with the Coffee Board thereby resulting in larger volumes being available for auction.

(e) Final decision on the proposal for granting a higher FSQ has not been taken by the Government.

(f) Does not arise.

Impact of Agreement on Transit Trade Route on India's Trade

2018. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the impact of China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Kyreghyzstan having finalised an agreement on transit trade route with Central Asian Republics at a conference held in Islamabad earlier this month, on India's trade with these Republics;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) steps proposed to meet this threat posed to India's trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government are aware of the agreement signed by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrghyzstan & Pakistan recently, Both Kazakhstan and Kyrghyzstan have stated that they want to expand trade & economic cooperation with India, and it is unlikely that the proposed agreement will have significant negative impact on our trade with these countries.

(c) India has been in touch with the Governments of Iran and the Russian Federation to make optimum use of port, rail and road networks in these countries for developing our trade with Central Asian countries. Government are optimistic about the potential of these routes to Central Asia. Government also keep under constant review the utilisation of our aviation links with Central Asian countries for trade.

Contracts for Export of Wheat and Rice

2019. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some contracts have been signed for export of various varieties of wheat and rice during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof with terms of such agreements and names of sources of export;

(c) whether Government propose to export pulses during the current financial year or next financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof with initiatives taken in this regard alongwith its objectives;

(e) whether Government also propose to take some steps to boost country's growth of wheat, rice and pulses to discourage export and to check hoarding tendencies of traders; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The details of contracts signed by various Govt. agencies for supply of wheat and rice during 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under:—

(i) FCI have signed a contract for supply of 30,000 MTs of super fine rice with the Govt. of Nepal for delivery by 31.5.95.

(ii) STC have signed/executed contracts for export of rice to Bangladesh and wheat to United Arab Emirates the details of which are as under:

Year	Quantity MT	Value Rs. Lakh	Shipment Period
Rice			
1994-95	2,200	193	20th March, 1995
	7,800	583	31st March, 1995
	6,400	495	31st March, 1995
	25,000	2074	31st March, 1995
1995-96	25,000	2074	30th April, 1995
Wheat (Non-Durum)			
1994-95	50,000	2385	30th April, 1995

(iii) MMTC have signed a contract for export of 1748 MTs of Non-Basmati rice for value of Rs. 1.46 crores to Turkey.